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Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know why the Madras Government should run a Forest College which after all trains students who come mostly from outside the province and why the Central Government should not conduct the staff ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" The College was intended for the education of those who are employed in this Presidency, but because there is ample accommodation for the training of students from other provinces and Indian States such students are also taken."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" That is why I am asking why the Central Government should not run the staff ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It was established by this Government for the benefit of the students of this Presidency and so this Government runs the institution."

Hydro-electric schemes

Licence to Messrs. Octavius Steel Company of Calcutta for electrical schemes.

* 191 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Messrs. Octavius Steel Company of Calcutta and Messrs. Crompton Parkinson & Co. have been granted licences for carrying out electrical schemes in the Presidency ;

(*b*) if so, for what amount in each case and when the licences were granted ; and

(*c*) whether these two firms only had submitted tenders, and, if not, what are the names of the other firms who had sent up tenders ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) The Tinnevelly-Palamcottah Electric Supply Company, Trichinopoly, Messrs. Killick Nixon and Company, Bombay, and Messrs. Chari and Chari, Madras.

Mr. D. Thomas :—" May I know if any of the tenders have been accepted by the Corporation ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" This has not been mentioned in the question."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Was the rejection due to the recommendation of the Electrical Inspector to Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It has not been rejected."

Alleged information given to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta regarding electrification schemes.

* 192 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Collectors of districts have been requested by a demi-official to furnish information regarding towns in their districts which will prove useful for electrification schemes ;

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(b) whether this information has been placed at the disposal of Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta and of Messrs. Crompton Parkinson, Limited ; and

(c) if so, why this information was furnished to these English firms only and not to Indian firms or to the South Indian Chamber of Commerce ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Alleged aid by Collectors to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta.

* 193 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have advised by demi-official the Collectors of all the districts that they should render all help to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. of Calcutta, Messrs. Crompton Parkinson, Limited, and Messrs. Croft, Forbes and Chard, in connexion with the electrification schemes of towns in their districts ?

A.—No

Progress of hydro-electric schemes.

* 194 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing the progress made in regard to various hydro-electric schemes, the financial provisions made therefor, the establishments sanctioned, and the various places to which electricity engendered is to be carried and with what probable success ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 92 at the Legislative Council meeting held on 4th September 1928 in regard to the progress made on hydro-electric schemes. The present position is as follows :—

The Pykara scheme.—The Railway Board have not yet come to a decision in regard to the electrification of the South Indian Railway sections. The Government have decided to proceed with the scheme without awaiting the Railway Board's decision, and the Government of India have been addressed to obtain the Secretary of State's sanction to the execution of the scheme.

The Glen-Morgan scheme.—The construction of the scheme is rapidly progressing and work is expected to be completed in a few months.

The Papanasam scheme.—No decision has yet been arrived at in regard to this scheme. Attempts are being made to secure demand for a definite block of power to enable the scheme to be proceeded with.

The investigation of the *Kolab scheme* is in progress and a report from the Chief Engineer for Hydro-electric Development is awaited.

2. The financial provision made for hydro-electric schemes is given on pages 201–203 and 405 of the Civil Budget Estimate for 1929–30.

3. A statement showing the establishment sanctioned for the Hydro-electric Development department is attached.[a]

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 435–436 infra.